



Investigation of the gen presence and formation of biofilms by *Staphylococcus* in a milk processing micro-dairy

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INTRODUCTION

Milk is a highly nutritious food and excellent substrate for the multiplication of microorganisms. The objective of this study was to investigate the presence and formation of biofilm of *Staphylococcus* before and after the cleaning process in a micro-dairy plant in São Paulo State.

METHODS

Sixty swab samples were collected before and after the cleaning process from the reception tank surfaces, the raw milk storage tank, the pasteurizer outlet pipe, the pasteurized milk storage tank, and the packaging machine. Further samples were collected of the milk in the receiving tank, the raw milk storage tank, from the pasteurizer outlet pipe, and packaged milk, as well as the empty sealed plastic packaging used for packaging the pasteurized milk. The media used for the accession of bacterial cells in vitro were coupons in stainless steel AISI 304 with 10 x 20 mm.

RESULTS



Figure 1 - Gen *icaA* positive in the columns 4, 6, 11, 12, 13, 20 e 24 (tank surfaces); 10 e 27 (pipes); a das columnas 1, 8, 9, 15, 17 e 25 (milk). NC: Negative control.

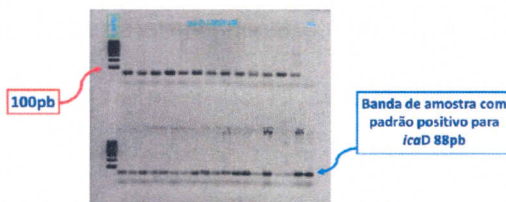


Figure 2 - *Staphylococcus* spp strains / gen *icaD* positive. NC: Negative control.



Figure 3A - Micrography of adhered cells of isolated strains on the surface of stainless steel AISI 304.

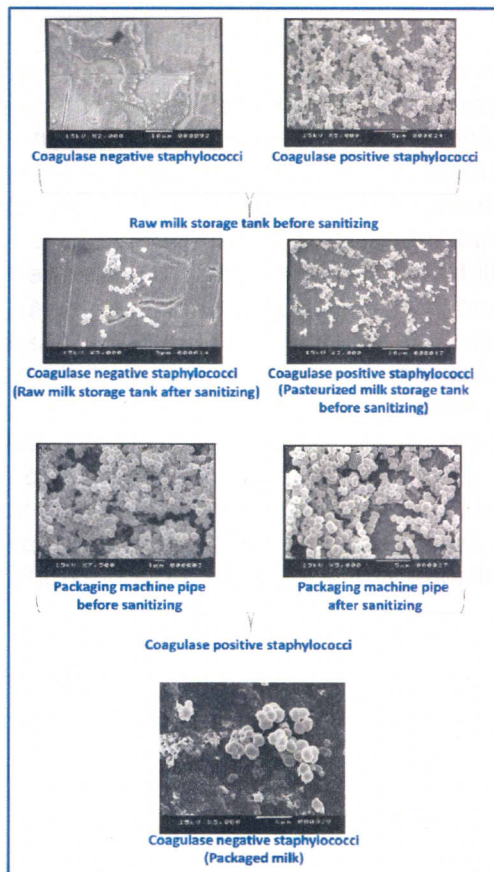


Figure 3B - Micrography of adhered cells of isolated strains on the surface of stainless steel AISI 304

CONCLUSIONS

The presence of staphylococci strains in the contaminated material by deficiencies in hygienic cleaning with formation of biofilms represents a potential risk to the health of the consumer.

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Pictures: SANTOS, S.S. 2009. Investigação da presença e da formação de biofilmes por estafilococos em micro-usina de beneficiamento de leite. 57p. Universidade Estadual Paulista Jaboticabal, SP, Brasil.



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